

I am writing this letter to the FCC because I am frustrated that public airways are being used for promoting specific political agendas. I am writing to request that you stop the Sinclair effort to air an anti-Kerry documentary that is not being paid for but which is to be aired during free public air time. Political commercials should be paid for and equal time given to any viable parties. This falls within the same concern as making sure that public airways are free from abusive, indecent language or slander. I am writing to ask you to intervene in the Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and is an infringement of the spirit and law of licensing of public airways.

Sinclair wants to use the public airwaves free of charge, but is obligated by law to serve the public interest- this is really contradictory behavior which the FCC is obligated to review now, before it takes place. When large companies like this control the airwaves, we lose important elements of our freedom of speech, for then only the powerful who have consolidated control of the airwaves can have free speech, and we lose out as a democracy of ideas and representation. Instead of something produced at a central headquarters far away when local stations are designed to reflect local concerns, it's more important and essential to good coverage that we see and hear from real people from our own communities and get more substantive balanced news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. I hope you will quickly take up this issue and make sure that our elections and airways stay as unbiased as possible and are not manipulated.

Thank you.